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NEWS NEWS!

The "British Colonist" is the only newspaper published at Victoria that receives the latest telegraphic dispatches, as a comparison will prove. Late telegrams appearing in any other paper are copied without credit 24 hours after they have appeared in the British Colonist. The circulation of the British Colonist being greater than that of any other paper, it offers the best medium to advertisers.

The Omicra Trade.

Right glad are we to learn the determination of the Government to push forward with the utmost energy the work of opening up a channel for supplies East of the Cascade Range to flow into Omicra. Looking at the subject from a higher standpoint than that of a mere trade route, it is obviously the true interest of the Colony that the millions of unmarketed produce lying on the hands of farmers in the interior should find in the great Eldorado of the North a demand which the older fields no longer offers. It can be no secret that the productive capacity of the country East of the Cascade Range has long since outgrown the consumptive capacity of Cariboo, and it has just come to this, that new markets must be thrown open or else agricultural operations in the interior must decline at a period when declension would be most fatal. And, if Omicra is to yield up her golden treasure now, how utterly suicidal to permit that treasure to be drained into foreign channels when it might, with a little effort and judicious management, be made to fertilize our own agricultural districts, guided into the pockets of our own farmers. The policy of the thing admits of no question. The only debatable ground is as to how so desirable an object can best be accomplished. We have already indicated the determination of the Executive to do its part; and it is gratifying to observe that private enterprise appears equally determined to do its part. We announced last week the successful passage of the steamer Enterprise through Cottonwood Canon, and will be seen by reference to an advertisement in another column that the Enterprise above the Cottonwood Canon and the Victoria below, will run in cooperation, carrying freight and passengers for Omicra. We are not yet in a position to state with that degree of definiteness which one could wish, how far the Enterprise will be enabled to extend her trips; but we are quite prepared to learn that she will run up a line of some 100 miles, being within about twenty miles of Fort George. This would give steamboat communication all the way from Soda Creek to this twenty miles of Fort George, a distance of less than half a mile. Cottonwood Canon. The reader at once perceives the great advantage that will be, especially in so far as the conveyance of freight in cooperation. And this arrangement cannot fail to greatly increase the attractiveness of the route for passengers. To be able to travel on a comfortable steamer from month to month to the Upper Canon, the trading sum of five dollars is no small inducement. The saving in time, to say nothing at all about comfort, would be far more than an equivalent for the passage money. Under all the circumstances we are disposed to take a hopeful view of the prospects held out by Omicra as presenting a ready market for the produce of the great East of the Cascade Range.

With so very important an object in view, we hope to see Executive energy and private enterprise going on, as they appear to be doing now, hand in hand.

Where shall we Bury our Dead?

The question with which we head the present remarks is inevitably suggested by the notice which appeared in Saturday's *Gazette*, viz. "after twelve months from this date no further burials will be permitted to take place in the present Victoria Cemetery." And here we take occasion to commend the decision at which the Board of Trustees have arrived. The question of closing the present cemetery, and providing a suitable place for the burial of the dead somewhat more remote from the habitation of the living has been advocated more than once in these columns, and we think the Trustees have rendered an important service to the public in so promptly taking the initial step towards the attainment of so desirable an object. But this first step involves a second, which, from its very nature, should be taken as quietly as possible. With the positive knowledge that no burials will be permitted to take place in the present cemetery after the lapse of twelve months, there will be a natural and very decided disinclination to bury any more in the ground about to be abandoned. In the case of families especially such will be the case; for the desire that in the last long sleep the various members of a family should lie side by side is very general. For these reasons as well as for the more practical ones which have led the Trustees to resolve upon closing the old cemetery, it is desirable that a new one should be provided with the utmost haste consistent with so grave a subject, in order that burial in the old one may cease to be longer necessary. Under these circumstances, we would urge that immediate steps be taken to provide a new cemetery. It is to be presumed that the duty will fall within the legitimate functions of the present Board of Trustees, and we only hope they will display the same promptitude in providing a new that they have in interdicting the old. The question of choosing a suitable site for the new cemetery is one upon which it is not proposed to enter in the present article. We would wish, however, to impress upon those whose duty it will be to make the selection—what, doubtless, is already present to their minds—the importance of securing a site which will be not further removed from the centre of population than sanitary considerations render desirable, at the same time, a site capable of meeting all future requirements and of becoming every way worthy of the metropolis of a large Colony. In order that no more changes may be necessary, let the site be demanded with a just view to the probable demands of the future.

Thursday May 2nd.

DEPARTURE OF THE BEATTY TROUPE.—This really respectable and talented theatrical troupe, having just completed an engagement here, goes over to Puget Sound to-day. Although Victoria has not been in her best play-going tempo during the greater part of that engagement, yet there has been occasions of real talent and undoubted worth. During their stay here Mr and Mrs Beatty and their wondrously gifted and charming little daughter, May Wells, have become very decided favorites with this community, and will always be certain of a warm welcome back. Messrs Melville and Ward, too, are much liked and have established a good professional reputation. Indeed, taking the company as a whole, it presents an array of talent not often to be met with in these parts, and we only trust that it will be duly appreciated by the various committees on Puget Sound. As we feel that we are only giving expression to the universal sentiment of the people of Victoria when we wish the Beatty Troupe a pleasant and profitable tour and a speedy return here.

THE ROAD STEAMERS.—We regret to have to announce that there will be a temporary interruption to the road steamer enterprise in the upper country. It is found that the links holding the steel shoes which form the flexible or outer tires, being made of malleable cast iron, will not answer on the rocky roads of this colony, as they are constantly snapping, causing much delay. In every other respect the steamers appear to answer very well. They are singularly tractable, being most completely under the control of the driver, while they climb the steepest grades with the utmost ease. This single difficulty of course can be easily overcome, but it is to be feared, in time to enable them to accomplish much this season. The difficulty will be properly represented to the manufacturers and patentees, and there can be little doubt that with the substitution of good wrought iron links the machines will be found to be well adapted to the carrying trade of the country.

THE LATE SCOTT.—Mr Barker yesterday completed his panorama by placing the last touches upon an Alaskan view representing a group of Cariboo Indians in the foreground with a range of snow-capped mountains in the background. We have all along indulged in the hope that this truly fine work of art, which comprises, among others, an excellent view of Victoria and surroundings, would be exhibited in this city before being sent to the East. It appears, however, that Mr Barker's engagements are such as to require his presence with the panorama in New York City on the 1st of July, which fact will render his departure in a few days imperative. It is to be regretted that this local work of art, which possesses real merit, should be taken away without the citizens of the place in which it was painted being afforded an opportunity of seeing it.

Amateur Athletic Sports.

These sports came off yesterday afternoon at the Cricket Grounds on the Esquimaux Road. The weather was fine and the number in attendance was very large. Every available vehicle was employed from 1 till 5 p.m. in carrying vast and eager crowds to the scene of the sports. Among those present were His Excellency the Governor and Mrs Macgregor.

The sports of the day, as arranged in the programme, came off as follows:
1 Flat Race—100 yards, won by Lieutenant Wright. Time, 11 seconds.
2 Flat Race—200 yards, won by Gannet. Time, 23 seconds.
3 Flat Race—400 yards, won by Gannet. Time, 47 seconds.
4 Flat Race—1/2 mile, won by Lieutenant Wright. Time, 11 minutes.
5 Punting—2 lb Shot—Distance, 28 feet 3 inches, won by W. Ailman.
6 Hurdle Race—200 yards, won by Lieut Wright and Tolmie. Time, 23 seconds.
7 Throwing the Hammer—Woo by A. B. Gray. Distance 67 ft 6 in.
8 Hal. Mile Flat Race.—Won by Ball and Britten.
9 Mile Flat Race.—Won by Lieut Wright. Time 55 minutes 29 sec.
10 Sack Race.—Struck out.
11 Three-Legged Race.—Won by C. E. Pooley and W. Gibbon.
12 Flat Race, 200 yards.—Woo by Lieut Wright. Time 22 sec.
13 Hurdle Race, 200 yards.—Won by Wheeler and Blackmore.
14 Flat Race, Half Mile.—Won by Mr Brant.

The races and other games were well contested and elicited great applause from the spectators. At the close of the affair Mrs Macgregor presented to the lucky winners the following prizes: 1 Pewter, 2 Money, 3 Fishing rod, 4 Pipe and knife, 5 Fly book, 6 Governor's cup and ring, 7 Whip, 8 \$5 and keg of beer, 9 Fancy mug, 10 Two Pipers, 12 Bat and fask, 13 \$5 and \$2, 14 Pewter, and a number of other articles.

In addition to the sports announced in the programme other amusements were indulged in. That ubiquitous old lady Aunt Sally contributed largely to the fun. The most difficult and persevering feat was that of climbing the greased pole, which was accomplished by an indefatigable marine, who after a desperate struggle that lasted nearly an hour secured the top of the pole, but a \$5 note which he expected to obtain with the feat was not there.

The sports were concluded at 4 1/2 o'clock, and immediately after the prizes had been distributed the gathering dispersed. All present will no doubt long retain pleasant recollections of the May-day spent at the Cricket Ground.

THE "SENTINEL" ON THE CIVIL LIST BILL.—In a leading article the *Cariboo Sentinel* takes a very calm and practical view of this measure, which has furnished such ready material for political agitators to work upon. Our contemporary says:—The Civil List Bill, which was still being discussed at last accounts, provides for the salaries of all Government employees now in office, so long as they continue in the service, without going through the ceremony of voting the amounts year by year. It is objected against this Bill that the heads of departments should be permanently provided for; but it strikes one as making little matter, as the present bill can be repealed or amended at any time—and if an officer is found to be superfluous or inefficient it will always be in the power of the Executive to dispense with his services.

PORT SOUND TRUPE.—The Seattle *Intelligencer* of yesterday highly compliments Rev Mr Paschona's lecture on "Daniel in Babylon," terming it one of the finest compositions ever penned. A petition is in circulation for a daily mail between Olympia and Port Townsend. Hon James Smith of Chehalis was slightly wounded by the accidental discharge of a pistol a few days ago. The railway terminus war on the Sound continues. There will never be an end to it—was the war, not the railway. The Odd Fellows' anniversary celebration at Seattle passed off with great eclat. Land and Snobomish river is being rapidly pre-empted by actual settlers. A Methodist Church is about to be erected at Port Townsend.

FUNERAL OF MR JOHN WILKIE.—The funeral of the late Mr Wilkie was very numerous and attended on Sunday. The obsequies were under the direction of the St. Andrew's and Orthodox Society, at 11 1/2 o'clock, was officiated by Sir James Douglas and the President and Vice President. The pall-bearers were Messrs J. C. Nicholson, J. Warren, B. Stamp, W. M. Wilson, A. O. Elliott, G. Warren, C. W. Ward, T. Lowe, E. Grandin, and A. B. Gray. The funeral services were conducted by Rev Mr McGregor at St Andrew's Church, and the remains were interred in the cemetery.

PACIFIC OASIS.—On Friday Kong Pay King, a Chinese, Free Mason, died, and on Sunday he was buried amid the blaring of trumpets, the beating of drums, the sounding of tom-toms, the clashing of cymbals, and the wailing of mourners. A more hideous din could not well be imagined. The chief mourner was a son of the dead man, who walked barefooted in the procession, wearing a coat and cap of sackcloth. Two pigs, two horns and an assortment of confections were borne in the procession: They were provided to provision the deceased's spirit on its flight to the celestial sphere. The demonstration was witnessed by a large concourse of people.

DEAD.—Hon James M. Mason, of Sidell, Mason notoriety, died on Sunday.
The propeller George S. Wright, for Sitka, passed up yesterday afternoon.

It is rumored that the member for Victoria District will start on a political starting tour along the East Coast to-day. He will probably be accompanied by the fossil member for Nanaimo, the Civil List Bill and sundry copies of his political wind-up sheet. The *Cariboo* gentlemen have been advised to stand for Ceychian have been appointed a select committee to receive him at the wharf and invite him to partake of eggs-sellent cheer.

BASE BALL MATCH.—The match between the Olympic and Victoria Nines came off yesterday afternoon at Beacon Hill and resulted in a tie—28 to 28. One home run was made by Friedman. Another match will take place about the 24th of May.

THE BALL.—The May-Day celebration closed with a ball by the pupils of the McClara Street Dancing Academy at Alhambra Hall. The attendance was large and very respectable, and the committee were preparing in their exertions to render the ball agreeable to all participants. Dancing was continued until an early hour this morning.

IMPORTANT TO MINERS AND OTHERS.—We have much pleasure in directing the attention of those interested in Omicra to a notice in another column. It will be seen that arrangements have been completed for transporting freight and passengers by steamer from Geesemouthe to the upper canon near Fort George at very reasonable rates. This arrangement cannot fail to exert a very decided influence in favor of the central route to Omicra.

EXCLUSIVE MARKET REPORTS.—For full information as to the extraordinary rise in breadstuffs at San Francisco, Merchants and others should refer to the *Colonist's* Exclusive Telegrams.

FROM THE SOUND.—The Puget Sound steam Olympic, Capt Finch, arrived at 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon bringing 63 passengers and a quantity of live stock. She will sail at 10:30 o'clock this morning for ports on the Sound. Mr Finch has placed us under obligations for files of his papers.

PORT SOUND RAILWAY.—The Puget Sound section of the North Pacific Railway will be commenced immediately. The contract for the construction of first 25 miles from Kalama Soundward has been given out to Mr Montgomery.

SOUND MAIL.—The steamer Isabel arrived from the Sound last evening at 8:30 o'clock, with 66 passengers and a mail. She will return this morning at 9 o'clock.

OFF.—Mr T. G. Murphy informs us that the ship David Headley, ashore on Smith's Island, was tugged off yesterday by the Godiah. She had sustained no damage.

MAIL COMMUNICATION.—The enterprising folk on Puget Sound are agitating for a daily mail, falling that they will be content with a six-weekly mail.

GARDEN ROBBERIES CONTINUE.—Naked footprints on the beds give rise to the belief that the depredaters are Sitwashes.

THE PROPPELLER CALIFORNIA is advertised to sail from Portland for Victoria on the 20th May.

READ TAX, 1871.—An adjourned Court of Appeal for Equitable Town Road District will be held to-day at 11 o'clock at Peasemaster Howard's house.

JOSE HEDDER.—The Chinese are about to erect a Joss House and Masonic Temple in this city and the gods are being made to order in China.

A DISPATCH from Mr G. J. Findlay, received by Mr Bredie, announced that the Pacific would sail from Portland for Victoria last evening.

LONDON NEWS.—On Thursday morning Lumley Franklin will sail for Glasgow, bringing furniture, crockery, harness and sundries. ADVANCE.—Four, having advanced half a dollar at the main points of production, has taken a corresponding rise here.

TAN. KAPPAHAN from Langley, N.W. Westminister and Burrard Inlet reached port on Sunday, bringing a few passengers.

MAY DAY.—Most of the business houses, including the banks, were closed yesterday afternoon.

The barkentine Lulu sailed on Saturday for Shanghai.

Ma. BAREGORE DISTONRY, reported missing, reached town on Sunday.
The Pioneer Society will meet this evening.
The Canadian Fisheries has been published and receives very favorable notice in the Canadian press. The Minister claims that our fisheries are the most extensive

and valuable in the world. The annual catch is valued at \$17,000,000. Of this amount citizens of the United States take \$8,000,000 worth, chiefly within the three-mile limit, and \$7,000,000 worth of the home catch is exported, which is about double what it was ten years ago. The increase during the past year is remarkable, and the Minister thinks that a few years of judicious protection will show a still farther very large increase. The fishery collections have amounted to \$16,622, and the expenditures for over-seas' salaries, etc., have been \$48,263. The cost of maintaining

the fisheries is a subject upon which the Minister says—The shortest way to avoid all trouble is, of course, to abstain from trespassing. That at once obviates all difficulty. The next and only alternative is to make a fair bargain for the use of privileges which are indispensable to their fishing interests. Canada has not the least desire to injure or destroy the American fishery, and the Canadians have, in fact, done nothing to warrant such inference. The popular idea that we do not admit them to a free use of our inshore fishing grounds, either in retaliation for abrogating reciprocity, or in order to coerce the United States Government in the direction of a reciprocal free trade, is an utterly erroneous assumption. We simply deny them the continuance of valuable benefits for which they have caused to offer us any equivalent. The coincidences which render such an erroneous inference from our policy and proceedings at all plausible, should be easily distinguished from this simple and just principle.

LAST NIGHT'S DISPATCHES.

Europe.
London, April 30.—The Communist propose to confiscate the property of the Northern Railway unless it resumes running passenger and provision trains into Paris. A Masonic procession half a mile long passed through the streets to-day and planted their banners on the ramparts under a heavy fire. All the lodges of the order were repressed. Several persons were wounded while on the walls.

VERAILLES, April 30.—The castle and cemetery of D'Issey were carried last night by the Government forces. The ammunition and 100 prisoners fell into their hands. D'Issey's capture is momentarily expected. There granted an interview to a delegate from the Masons of Paris who arrived here last night. He told them the Government desired to see an end to the civil war, but the Assembly would not capitulate in the presence of armed insurrectionists. He recommended them to the Commune for the restoration of order within the city, which had been usurped control.

VERAILLES, April 29.—There is a public circular gives a dispatch from Gen Assay announcing the success of a coup de main on Seemory Farm in which 32 insurgents were killed and wounded and 75 taken prisoners. The same circular contains a dispatch from Gen Farron confirming the previous reports of the success of the loyalists in front of D'Issey. Cannonading continues.

It is reported the Archbishop of Paris has been released.

BRASIL, April 29.—The *Gazette* announces that the French contribution towards the support of the German troops has been paid up to the last cent.

PARIS, April 30.—A column of the enemy advanced on the Clamaret Railroad station and occupied houses 200 yards from the end of the line. The fort is a wreck. Cannonading was broken in, embankments demolished for 300 feet, 90 guns dismounted, ammunition for the militia exhausted and the garrison panic-stricken. The garrison mutilated and spiked their remaining guns, and this morning a daylight the entire garrison deserted. The city, General Cluseret, was in the front at the first news of the desertion of the troops, returned at noon to-day, having failed to stop the panic. His men went on troops, amongst whom are the Avengers of Paris, to occupy the fort. A combat is now in progress in that quarter.

EASTERN STATES.
WASHINGTON, April 30.—A decision is expected to be made by the Supreme Court tomorrow regarding the validity of the gold contracts.

ALEXANDRIA, VA., April 29.—Hon James M. Mason, ex-U. S. Senator from Virginia, and Minister to England under the late Confederate Government, died at his residence at Clarendon near this city at 10 o'clock last night. For some time past his health has been failing, and within the last month he had lost his eyesight. He died of general debility, his nervous system being generally deranged. He had been unconscious for a day or two and died very quietly.

REMEMBER THE FATE OF ABALON.—Fred Payne, Concord Artist, Shaving 12 cents. Hair Cutting 25 cents, Shampooing 25 cents. The Original Cheap Shaving Shop stands on the sunny side of Johnson street.

THE SPOONERS.—Mr McDonnell has added a spacious restaurant to the Seaside Lunch room and is now fully prepared to supply meals at all hours to an unlimited number of guests.